

ALCOA 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Alcoa Foundation.

The Alcoa Foundation, located in Pittsburgh, was founded in 1952 with an endowment from Alcoa, the company that has been a very successful producer of aluminum in this country for decades. Alcoa has its headquarters in Pittsburgh.

Since its founding, the Alcoa Foundation has made more than \$339 million in awards around the world, including the \$21 million it gave to more than 2,000 organizations in 26 countries last year. The foundation targets its giving to promote the goals of conservation and sustainability; safe and healthy children and families; global education in business, engineering, science, and technology; skills for the future; and business and community partnerships. The foundation also concentrates its efforts in communities in which it operates.

One of those communities is Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Alcoa Foundation has established a five-year "Allegheny Works Initiative", for example, in Pittsburgh. The foundation has committed \$1 million through this program to programs that enhance literacy and employment opportunities on the City's Northside. The initiative relies upon local leaders to determine the community's most pressing needs and suggest the most appropriate responses to those needs. Grant awards through the initiative have included after-school programs to improve young people's study skills and discourage drug and alcohol abuse. Other programs have increased access to the Internet for Northside residents and promoted reading among at-risk students at a local school.

Among its many other activities, the Alcoa Foundation funds scholarships for the children of Alcoa employees in the United States. These scholarships are awarded based on achievement, potential, leadership, community service and character. They are judged by a national panel of college and university professionals. This year, 91 students received scholarships totaling \$534,000.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the Alcoa Foundation for its many good works and congratulate its staff and donors on the 50th anniversary of this worthy institution.

HONORING ALFRED CAHN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Alfred Cahn, upon celebrating his 90th birthday.

Al Cahn has worked with the Coler-Goldwater Memorial Hospital on Roosevelt Island for nearly thirty years. He has been a passionate member of the Patient Care Committee, fighting to help improve the lives of patients. Al and his devoted wife, Lee, took the time to create a family council to work with

hospital administration to help make Coler-Goldwater an even better place. Al's dedication led him to serve as both president of the council and vice-president of the Community Advisory Board at the hospital.

Al's extensive interaction with the patients at Coler-Goldwater is remarkable. Al not only visits his patients, he brings out those that are able and serves as a feeder for those that are less fortunate. Al and his wife are also known for their annual barbecue which they host at their Whitestone home. With homemade food and fresh fish, caught by the Cahn's themselves, the outing has been a truly uplifting time for all of the attendees.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Alfred Cahn on this truly special occasion as he celebrates his 90th birthday. Al is an honorable man who has spent such a large portion of his life aiding and honoring the lives of others. May he continue to celebrate throughout this year and for many more to come.

HONORING ROBERT C. STEWART

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mariposa County District III Supervisor Robert "Bob" Stewart for his years of dedicated service to the community.

Bob has shown his commitment to the community through a career of public service. He is a veteran who served on the California Highway Patrol for twenty-eight years, protecting Mariposa County for twenty. As an elected official, Bob continued supporting emergency responders by advocating newer equipment for public safety employees and volunteer fire departments.

Bob was first elected to the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors in 1994 and reelected for his second term in 1998, serving as Chair in 1997 and 2002. He acted as Board liaison member to the General Government and the Health and Human Services areas.

Bob's contributions to the community spread beyond the numerous County projects he has chaired. For the last twenty years he has also served as deacon to the First Baptist Church of Mariposa. In all of his varied activities, Bob is known foremost for his honesty and integrity.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Bob Stewart for his active and dedicated community involvement. I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking Bob and wishing him many more years of success.

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING
PETER YARROW AND AVERY
COHEN**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Peter Yarrow and Avery Cohen, as they are honored by the Hat-

tie Larlham Foundation on November 13th for their significant work on behalf of individual rights.

For the past forty years, the Hattie Larlham Foundation has been a source of hope, support and care for thousands of children and adolescents with disabilities and their families, in northeast Ohio. The vast and vital work of both Peter Yarrow and Avery Cohen on behalf of the Foundation, reflects the true spirit of this exceptional agency—a spirit of helping and caring, a spirit of empowerment; and a spirit of dedication to social justice—one child at a time; one family at a time.

The vital work of Peter Yarrow and Avery Cohen is the work of heroes who speak for those whose voice is small—they are the messengers for our most vulnerable citizens—our children, our poor, and our mentally and physically challenged. Their message speaks of local and national change. Their message speaks of improved services for children and adults with disabilities. Their message speak of research to seek improvements, to find cures, to give support, to give hope.

Peter Yarrow carries the message through his gift of song, crossing the continent to raise funds and raise awareness, with projects like the creation of "Operation Respect," a program that advocates nurturing environments for children.

Avery Cohen, President of the Hattie Larlham Care Group, and Vice President of the Hattie Larlham Research Institute and Foundation, has carried the message through his tenacity, integrity, compassion and expertise for the past thirty-six years. Considered a "founding member," Avery joined the Board of Directors of the Hattie Larlham Foundation in 1966. His unwavering commitment remains focused on assisting and improving the lives of the children and families of our community.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring every staff and member of the Hattie Larlham Foundation, and please also join me in honoring my dear friends, Peter Yarrow and Avery Cohen. I honor your dedication and significant work in helping, empowering, inspiring, and bringing hope to children and families facing a challenging road. Your work and activism brings us light, guidance and strength, and gives us hope for a better tomorrow.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, each year in November American families across the country gather together in thanksgiving to recognize the variety of blessings they have received. It is fitting that we also choose this month to recognize the importance of adoption in our society.

Currently, thousands of children across the country, freed for adoption, are waiting to be a part of a loving and caring family with a stable home and attentive parents. Many of these children have special physical, mental, or emotional needs and require special nurturing from devoted parents and families. Let it be known that their adoption by special people

who elect to take full responsibility for their care, their upbringing, and their overall well-being is an important service not only to these children, but to our country at large.

Adoption not only provides obvious benefits to the affected child, but it has proven to be one of the most rewarding experiences for many adoptive parents. We all benefit when a needy child is adopted.

The County of Onondaga in New York's 25th Congressional District will be recognizing the importance of adoption on Friday, November 22nd in ceremonies at Onondaga County Family Court. It is my privilege to recognize and thank all those families, case workers, and staff gathered for this important event who have dedicated themselves to improving the welfare of our community's children. It is my hope that this recognition further promotes the importance and benefits of adoption for all those involved. I thank all those responsible for organizing this special local observance of National Adoption Awareness Month.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIAN ROCK NATURE PRESERVE, BRISTOL, CT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding organization, Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut. I join them in celebrating a special milestone, the 25th anniversary of their Indian Rock Preserve located in Bristol, Connecticut.

The Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut has been a leader in Environmental Education and open space land preservation. They reach over 30,000 students a year from more than 180 schools in Connecticut. They currently own and manage over 525 acres of open space in Connecticut and are adding more land each year.

The organization was founded in 1969 as a not-for-profit charitable organization for land preservation and environmental education with the original purchase of 40 acres of land on Shrub Road, Bristol. Shortly thereafter they completed construction of the Harry C. Barnes Memorial Nature Center on Shrub Road and began educational programs dealing with the environment. Today, the Barnes Nature Center provides the public with many exhibits and a library. This facility is open to the public without charge.

In 1977, they received the 150 acre Indian Rock Nature Preserve and enlarged their educational programs with the opening of the farm life program for elementary schools and a summer day camp for youth. In 1986, the organization constructed a 3,300 square foot building on the preserve to accommodate growing educational programs and the summer camp. Just recently, they completed construction of 1,200 square foot addition to accommodate their continued growth. The Center provides over 130 different educational subject topics for organized schools and groups throughout the year.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut is an organization of great dedication and commitment to their mission and to the citizens of Con-

necticut. Their success is well earned and I am honored to share their accomplishments with the House of Representatives and the nation. The accomplishments of this organization are many and it is my privilege to congratulate them on the 25th anniversary of the Indian Rock Nature Preserve. Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut, congratulations, and all the best to you in your future endeavors.

CHINA'S MILITARY THREAT AGAINST TAIWAN

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, it seems Beijing is applying a two-pronged Taiwan policy. On one hand, Beijing talks peace about Taiwan. It demands Taiwan accept their "one country, two systems" formula of unification. This is their soft prong. If Taiwan is unwilling to negotiate peace under this formula, there is the hard prong—Beijing continuing to conduct military exercises around Taiwan. In fact, in recent months, Beijing has deployed 400 tactical guided missiles on China's eastern coast, less than 200 miles from Taiwan. As sophisticated weapons, these missiles can hit targets in Taiwan easily.

Beijing's undisguised military intimidations against Taiwan pose a serious threat to the well-being of the 23 million people on Taiwan. After all, Republic of China President Chen Shui-bian has assured Chinese leaders that he wants a structured, constructive cross-strait relationship, setting no preconditions for resumption of talks. He has continued to express his good will, exercising utmost restraint to avoid provoking China while liberalizing restrictions on socioeconomic ties between Taiwan and China.

Unfortunately China has chosen to ignore President Chen's overtures, continued its efforts to interfere with democratic elections on Taiwan, suppressed Taiwan's activities in the international community and threatened Taiwan with military force.

I, however, hope that China will realize that it is good for people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait to live in peace, that China should allow Taiwan to be an equal partner in trade and commerce to China, since both China and Taiwan are now members of the World Trade Organization and that any military action against Taiwan will lead to chaos and destruction for many countries in the region.

For peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, I urge China to withdraw its missiles and reduce its stockpile. This is a constructive step to avert an arms race and military confrontation. I am pleased to see that the European Parliament has taken steps to urge China to de-escalate tension in the Taiwan Strait, and I hope other countries and other members of Congress will issue similar pleas to China.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DRAINAGE AREA PROJECT RECOGNIZED WITH TWO AWARDS

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Los Angeles County Drainage Area Project (LACDA) for recently receiving the Golden Eagle Award at the County of Los Angeles Quality and Productivity Commission's 16th Annual Productivity and Quality Awards Program. The national award follows an earlier honor, when the project was named one of the American Public Works Association's Public Works Projects of the Year.

Since entering Congress, completion of this project has been one of my highest priorities. I was pleased that Congress appropriated \$157 million during the past seven years for this work to be completed five years ahead of schedule. The bipartisan commitment to this project by area members of Congress and the hard work and extraordinary cooperation between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Los Angeles County Public Works Department ensured that construction of LACDA proceeded on an efficient and rapid timetable.

Completion of the LACDA project—which began in 1996—restores flood protection to nearly 500,000 people living in the flood plains of the Los Angeles and Rio Hondo Rivers. Due to the danger of severe flooding, in 1998 the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mandated that area residents and businesses carry flood insurance at an average cost of \$400 per year. Now that the requirement has been lifted, the County of Los Angeles estimates that property owners will save a collective \$22 million in annual insurance premiums.

The successful completion of this project has been a model for any major public works project. The federal, state, and local agencies involved should be proud of a job well done. Along with flood protection, residents also will enjoy a cleaner, safer environment and more recreational opportunities. As part of the LACDA project, 22 miles of bike and equestrian trails along the Los Angeles River have been improved and enhanced with landscaping, rest stops, and safer signage.

Receiving the American Public Works Association's Public Works Projects of the Year award and being honored with the Golden Eagle Award from the County of Los Angeles is a tribute to the many men and women who envisioned, planned, and finally constructed this important project. I tip my hat to all of them for their fine work and congratulate them on being chosen for these distinguished awards.

TRIBUTE TO CECIL WILLIAMS, JR.

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Arkansas's finest citizens, Cecil Williams, Jr. I am proud to recognize Mr. Williams in the United States Congress for his invaluable contributions to his profession, his family, his state and his nation.